which has been prepared for submission to the President under Article 51 of the Constitution have made certain observations regarding overpayment of pay, due to misinterpretation of Government orders by IITs, alleged irregular payment of bonus to reportedly non-eligible employees; short recovery of licence fee due to non implementation of revised rate of recovery of licence fee in respect of quarters allotted to employees of IIT Bombay; and non acceptance of the offer of the lower pre-qualified tenderer for the construction of a lecture hall complex in IIT Kharagpur.

Accessibility of CBSE offices

684. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that offices of the Central Board of Secondary Education are not easily accessible to students and parents;

(b) the number of the regional offices of CBSE;

(c) what steps would be taken to make the CBSE more accessible to people;

(d) whether the CBSE would respond to the queries online; and

(e) the steps proposed to make the CBSE more pro-active to students interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir. The officers and staff of CBSE are easily accessible to the students and parents.

(b) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has six Regional Offices in the country situated at Delhi, Chandigarh, Chennai, Ajmer, Allahabad and Guwahati.

(c) Regional Officers and other officials who are requested to interact with the public have been directed to be easily accessible to all persons seeking their attention.

(d) CBSE has provided for responding to online queries through its Helpline programme.

(e) The following steps have been taken by the CBSE to make it more pro-active to students' interests:

— E-counselling prior to the conduct of examination.

— Answering queries of the students, teachers and parents through media.

— Tele-counselling by involving experienced counsellors, principals and educators.

— Publication of the syllabi and Sample Question Papers on the CBSE website.

Internal assessment

685. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to initiate steps to introduce internal assessment in the subjects of mathematics, science and social science;

(b) the extent to which the CBSE would be able to standardise such internal assessment;

(c) whether such changes have already been implemented; and

(d) the details of the progress of a system of internal assessment for all the subjects for school students by the CBSE?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced internal assessment in the subjects of mathematics, science and social science at the secondary level.

(b) A weightage of 20% has been allocated for the internal assessment in mathematics, science and social science.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The internal assessment in the subject of social sciences was introduced in class IX from the academic year 2004-05. The students appearing in March, 2006 in the class X examination will have a component of internal assessment. For the subjects of mathematics and science, the component of internal assessment has been introduced in